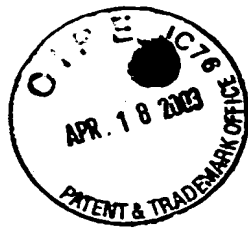


203648US-6



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

18/C
mDS
4.25.03

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
ISAO ICHIMURA ET AL : EXAMINER: CHU, K.
SERIAL NO: 09/330,894 :
CPA FILED: HEREWITH : GROUP ART UNIT: 2653
FOR: OPTIMIZING A DISTANCE :
BETWEEN LENSES OF A TWO-
OBJECTIVE LENS FOR ...

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

APR 24 2003

Technology Center 2600

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to initial examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 4, 18, and 25 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the claims as shown in the attached marked-up copy to read as follows:

21
--1. (Amended) An optical information recording/reproducing apparatus including
an optical pickup for making a light beam emitted from a light source incident on a recording
medium via a two-group objective lens so as to record or reproduce optical information on or
from said recording medium, said two-group objective lens including a first lens disposed in
the vicinity of said recording medium and a second lens disposed at a position facing to said
recording medium with said first lens put therebetween, said apparatus comprising: